GHOST RIDER
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
20¢
5
APR
02900
THE MOST SUPERNATURAL SUPERHERO OF ALL!
GHOST RIDER™
IS HE ALIVE-- OR DEAD?
THEY CALL HIM ROULETTE
THE MAN WHO GAMBLES WITH DEATH!
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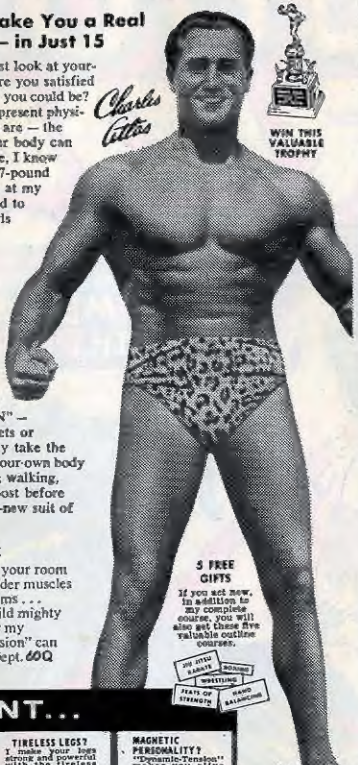
CHARLES ATLAS, World's No. 1 Body Builder, says:

Don't Be Half A Man!

Let ME SHOW How I Can Make You a Real HE-MAN From Head to Toe — in Just 15 Minutes a Day! Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a real HE-MAN! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls . . . afraid of healthy competition.


Charles Atlas
WIN THIS VALUABLE TROPHY
5 FREE GIFTS
If you act now, in addition to my complete course, you will also get these five valuable outline courses.
JU-JITSU
BOXING
WRESTLING
FEATS OF STRENGTH
HAND BALANCING

HOW I CHANGED FROM A "MOUSE" TO A MAN!

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn *you*, too, into a marvellous physical specimen . . . a real HE-MAN from head to toe . . . a man who STANDS OUT in any crowd! What's my secret? "DYNAMIC-TENSION" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard SOLID MUSCLE!

MY SECRET BUILDS MUSCLES FAST!

Just 15 minutes each day in the privacy of your room is all it takes to make your chest and shoulder muscles swell so big they almost split your coat seams . . . turn your fists into sledge-hammers . . . build mighty legs that never tire! Mail coupon today for my famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can give *you* a Body by Atlas. Charles Atlas, Dept. 60Q 115 E. 23 St., New York, N. Y. 10010.

DO YOU WANT...

A DEEP CHEST? I can add SOLID INCHES of powerful muscle to your chest, make you look and feel like a dynamo.

BIG ARM MUSCLES? You'll see and feel your arm muscles BULGE out with super power and energy.

TIRELESS LEGS? I make your legs strong and powerful with the tireless drive of a long distance runner.

MAGNETIC PERSONALITY? "Dynamic-Tension" makes you alive with vitality — the husky kind women admire.

BROAD SHOULDERS? "Dynamic-Tension" will broaden your shoulders. You'll see and feel the results in JUST 7 DAYS!

MORE WEIGHT? You'll put on pounds in the right places. "Dynamic-Tension" rebuilds you inside and out.

...THEN MAIL THIS *NOW!*

HERE'S THE KIND OF BODY I WANT

- ☐ MORE MUSCLE —BIGGER CHEST
- ☐ BIG ARM MUSCLES
- ☐ BROAD BACK & SHOULDERS
- ☐ TIRELESS LEGS
- ☐ MORE WEIGHT
- ☐ MAGNETIC PERSONALITY

CHARLES ATLAS
Dept. 60Q 115 E 23 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010

I enclose 10¢. Show me how "Dynamic-Tension" can make me a new man. Send your famous 32-page book, full of pictures, valuable advice. No obligation.

Print
Name.....Age.....
Address.....
City & State.....Zip Code.....

In England send to Charles Atlas, 21 Poland St., London W. 1

My 32-page illustrated book, Charles Atlas, 113 East 23 St., N. Y. 10010.

CHARLES ATLAS ON TV

THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF 'MAC'

HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!
THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH
LISTEN HERE... I'D SMASH YOUR FACE... ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY!
THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY
OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!
OH DEAR IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY, ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET THE FREE BOOK!
BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
THERE'S THAT BIG STIFF AGAIN, SHOVING OFF IN FRONT OF GRACE AND THE CROWD. WELL, IT'S MY TURN THIS TIME!
WHAM!—NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY!
OH MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!

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Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE GHOST RIDER!™

MARV WOLFMAN / PLOT | DOUG MOENCH / WRITER | JIM MOONEY / ART | SAL TRAPANI / INKER | TOM ORZ, LETTERER / P. GOLDBERG, COLORIST | ROY THOMAS / EDITOR

AND VEGAS WRITHES IN FLAME!
RIDE, BLAZE-- RIDE! BUT NO MATTER HOW FAST OR HOW FAR YOU RIDE, KNOW THAT ALL PATHS LEAD TO DOOM--
...COMPLIMENTS OF THE LEERING DEATH-PAWN CALLED ROULETTE!
--WHEN ROULETTE'S WHEEL OF DEATH COMES TO A STOP!
DON'T PUT ANY BETS ON IT, DEMON-FILTH!
I'LL RIP A TRAIL STRAIGHT THROUGH HELL TO SAVE ROCKY!
SANDS
POKER
ROULETTE
CASIN
CASINO
CRAPS
CABARET
SAHARA

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BUT BEFORE WE FOLLOW JOHNNY BLAZE DOWN THAT BRIMSTONE-PAVED CIRCUIT, LET'S PAUSE TO CONTEMPLATE A STARK FACE STUFFED WITH FEAR...
YOU OVERHEARD TOO MUCH, GIRLIE--
...ROXANNE SIMPSON'S FACE.
--AND I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE--
--NO ONE JEOPARDIZES DUKE JENSEN'S OPERATIONS! *
NOT UNLESS THEY WANT THEIR BRAIN SEEDED WITH BULLETS... LIKE TH--
*CROOKED OPERATIONS, AS WE LEARNED LAST ISSUE! -- ROY.
BOSS!
YOU FIRE THAT GUN.. AND WE'RE DEAD!
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SICKED THE COPS ON US-- THEY'RE SWARMIN' ALL OVER THIS NEIGHBORHOOD
WE'RE FINISHED!
OH... THANK... GO...
FINISHED, SLIFER?
FINISHED... MERELY BECAUSE I CAN'T FIRE THIS--
--GUN?
FINISHED... WHEN I CAN--
--CHANGE--
-- INTO THIS--?!

THIS IS IT! THE FINAL SHOWDOWN WITH ZODIAC— NOW IN AVENGERS #122!

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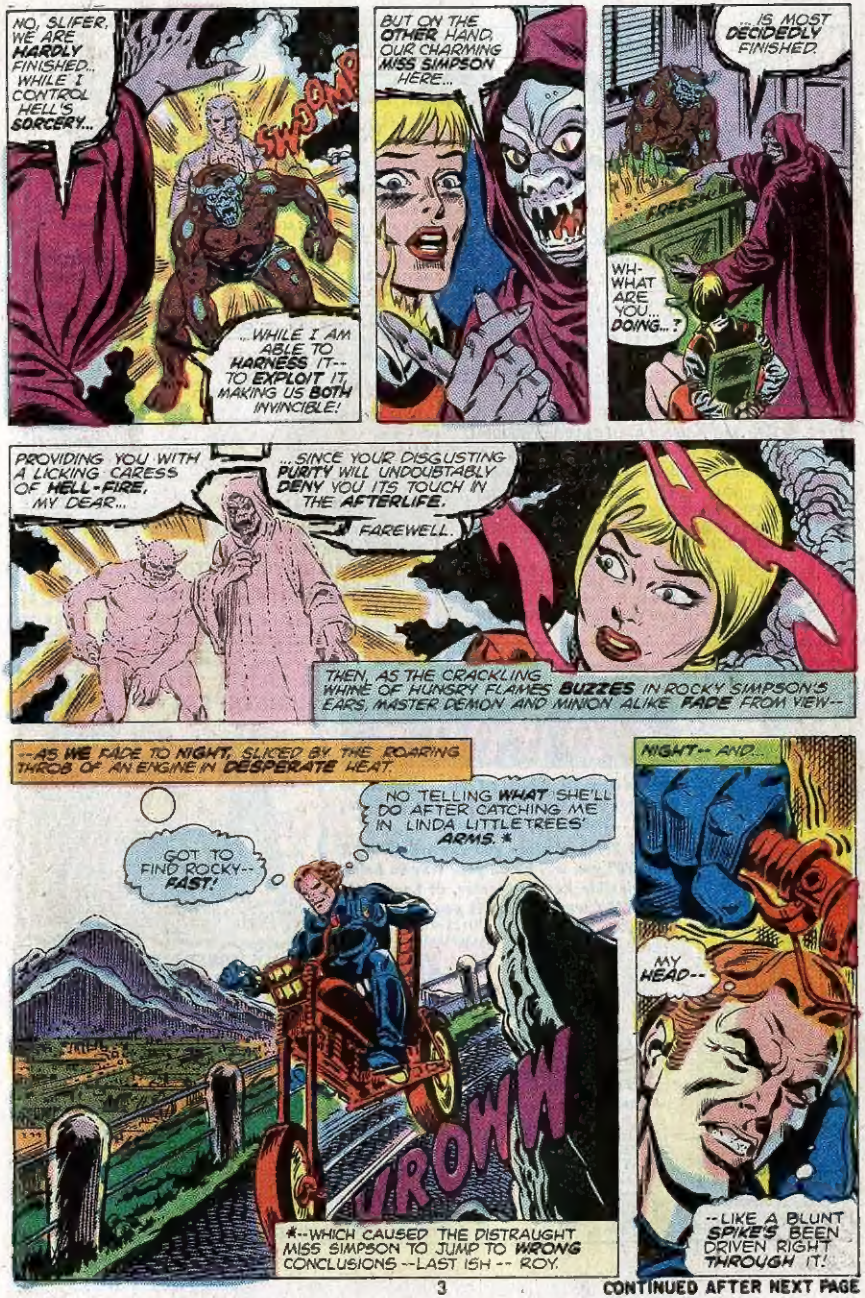
NO, SLIFER. WE ARE HARDLY FINISHED.. WHILE I CONTROL HELL'S SORCERY...
SKRONK
...WHILE I AM ABLE TO HARNESS IT-- TO EXPLOIT IT, MAKING US BOTH INVINCIBLE!
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, OUR CHARMING MISS SIMPSON HERE...
...IS MOST DECIDEDLY FINISHED.
FREEZE!!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU... DOING...?
PROVIDING YOU WITH A LICKING CARESS OF HELL-FIRE, MY DEAR...
...SINCE YOUR DISGUSTING PURITY WILL UNDOUBTABLY DENY YOU ITS TOUCH IN THE AFTERLIFE.
FAREWELL.
THEN, AS THE CRACKLING WHINE OF HUNGRY FLAMES BUZZES IN ROCKY SIMPSON'S EARS, MASTER DEMON AND MINION ALIKE FADE FROM VIEW--
--AS WE FADE TO NIGHT, SLICED BY THE ROARING THROB OF AN ENGINE IN DESPERATE HEAT.
GOT TO FIND ROCKY-- FAST!
NO TELLING WHAT SHE'LL DO AFTER CATCHING ME IN LINDA LITTLETREES' ARMS. *
VROOM
*--WHICH CAUSED THE DISTRAUGHT MISS SIMPSON TO JUMP TO WRONG CONCLUSIONS --LAST ISH -- ROY.
NIGHT-- AND...
MY HEAD--
--LIKE A BLUNT SPIKE'S BEEN DRIVEN RIGHT THROUGH IT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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TYPICAL BICYCLE MOTO-X RACING

BOYS! GIRLS! NOW YOU CAN RIDE
BICYCLE MOTO-X
JOIN THE A.B.M.-X.A. TODAY
(American Bicycle Moto-X Association)

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This new and exciting fun sport is run the same way the motorcycle racers run Moto-X. Except that instead of an expensive motorcycle, you ride a sting ray type of bike that YOU'VE fixed up for racing, using A.B.M.-X.A. approved parts and accessories.

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This is the OFFICIAL A.B.M-X.A. HOT HAT you get free with your A.B.M-X.A. membership.

Membership costs only $3.00 per year.

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AGE _____ SCHOOL GRADE _____

MAKE OF BIKE I WILL BE RIDING IS _____

$3.00 MUST ACCOMPANY EACH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Send membership applications to the

AMERICAN BICYCLE MOTO-X ASSOCIATION
1420 East Edinger, Suite 208,
Santa Ana, Calif. 92705

I'LL MAKE YOU A MASTER OF

日本 中華民國 比律

KARATE

Karate is the secret, Oriental art of self-defense that turns your hands, arms, legs into paralyzing weapons . . . without any bodily contact.

In just 2 hours after you receive "SUPER KARATE" you will be on your way to being an invincible Karate Master, at home, this Fast, EASY way or it costs you nothing.

WALLACE W. REUMANN

Author of "SUPER KARATE" and world-famous authority on KARATE, is the ONLY instructor in the Northeast U. S. recognized by the Amateur Athletic Karate Federation in Tokyo.

I spent 3 years in Japan learning the little-known secrets of KARATE and was awarded the 4th Degree Black Belt—the 3rd of the highest possible proficiency. Now I'm ready to show you every secret I learned—and I guarantee I'll make YOU into a KARATE specialist in record time—or every cent you paid for my information will be refunded!

You don't have to attend either of my 2 schools where I train men like you and turn them into KARATE experts. No, I can show you how to practice KARATE in the privacy of your own home with only a few minutes of practice a day. I have pin-pointed all the secrets of KARATE into "SUPER KARATE"—profusely illustrated and clearly explained.

In this book I take you step by step through the fundamentals of KARATE and show you, illustrated clearly and immediately by how these amazing techniques operate to make you master of ANYONE you may meet—no matter how BIG he is, or how much he weighs!

YOUR BODY IS YOUR PROTECTION!

The result of hundreds of years of development in Japan, KARATE is the Oriental system of self-defense in which you turn your hands, arms and legs into bone-crushing, powerful weapons of attack. When you know how to use KARATE, you disarm and disable your opponent in SECONDS.

When you apply KARATE techniques, you can cut an aggressor down with a blow of the side of your hand. You can lose an attacker from the rear over your shoulder and slam him into the ground. (In fact, a beautiful photograph in Pageant Magazine shows a 115-lb girl slamming her 240-lb instructor into the practice mat!)

With KARATE you can disarm an opponent armed with a knife, a broken bottle, a revolver, or any kind of weapon. You can turn an aggressor's attack into your advantage with only your bare hands, your arms and your legs.

MASTER EVERY SITUATION

With KARATE you can disarm and disable two, three and even four attackers. You can apply a simple combination of your hands and finger, ankles and toes at close or distance vital nerve centers of your opponent and watch his gun or knife fall from his limp hand, while he himself sinks to the ground completely helpless and faint.

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Costs ONLY $9¢

You owe it to your own peace of mind—to your loved ones—to be able to defend yourself in these days when attack may come at any time from hoodlums, criminals and "nuts" type." So mail coupon NOW for my complete instruction on KARATE—for the amazingly low price of only 99¢ plus 25¢ for postage and handling. If you don't think friends and KARATE has made a new man out of you every penny will be refunded!

100's of Illustrations

only 99¢

completely confident of yourself and your ability to handle yourself. You will walk with a decidedly relaxed and confident step . . . you'll look any man in the eye . . . and you'll walk the streets with the knowledge that NOTHING can frighten you—that you can deal with any man, any weapon, any situation—and that you can do all this with NO bodily contact!

GIANT LIFE-LIKE KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY

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INCLUDES ILLUSTRATED KARATE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM! Now you can add speed to your knowledge of KARATE and become a champ more quickly than you ever thought possible! You can practice on your own personal KARATE model—just as though you actually had a live partner to work with! Amazingly life-like Giant KARATE PRACTICE DUMMY shows clearly those vulnerable areas which should be attacked. Instantly you know WHERE to attack, while the easy-to-follow instructions in MODEL show you HOW to attack. You also learn the body's major vulnerable regions for defense or on-guard position to take, and your body's personal weapons which you can use to deadly effect, such as edge of hand, knee, elbow, etc. Big numbers on DUMMY show you exact location of pressure points and vital spots which you can practice attacking. Order your own personal DUMMY and Illustrated KARATE instructions now! Check coupon!

Only 99¢ plus 25¢ for postage.

DUMMY shows you exact location of pressure points and vital spots which you can practice attacking. Order your own personal DUMMY and Illustrated KARATE instructions now! Check coupon!

SPECIAL MONEY-SAVING COMBINATION OFFER! $1.98

Order both the SUPER KARATE BOOK and LIFE-LIKE DUMMY for only $1.98 postpaid and SAVE 52c. Just check box in coupon below. We pay all postage. Great Britain 12.

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PRECISE PUBLICATIONS, Dept. KA-16
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☐ Rush your special Combination money-saving package of SUPER KARATE BOOK and DUMMY. I enclose $1.98 in payment in full (I save 52c). Ship in plain wrapper. My friends and I must be delighted with my amazing new power or you refund my money in full.

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

☐ I understand that by signing KARATE I am morally bound and obligated never to practice KARATE as an aggressor (only to defend myself) and will never abuse it.

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If you've ever said...

"There must be a better way to earn a living..."

one of our free Career Guidance Booklets may provide the opportunity you've been looking for.

It happens to all of us, sooner or later. No matter what kind of job we have.

One day, it suddenly strikes home that—like it or not—we're going to have to work for a living, the rest of our lives. And most of us are horrified at the thought of forever being locked into the jobs we now hold.

"Surely," we tell ourselves, "there must be a way to earn enough extra dollars each month to balance the family budget. Surely, there must be a way to get the kind of position where you don't have to worry about job security. Surely, there must be a way to get a job that offers greater opportunity for advancement, and more job satisfaction."

"Surely," in other words, "there must be a better way to earn a living!"

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Your free booklet will describe the opportunities for higher income and greater job security you might

expect in one of the career fields listed on the coupon below. It will also explain why ICS can prepare you for this new career field... right in your own home...in your spare time...*regardless of your education or past experience.*

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Please bear in mind, as you check off your career choice on the coupon below, that ICS has a long and distinguished record of success as a career training organization. In fact, more than 8,500,000 men and women have turned to ICS for career training, since 1891.

ICS has provided training programs for various divisions and branches of companies like Ford; U.S. Steel; Chrysler; Mobil; DuPont; etc.

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Now it's your turn to discover how ICS training can start *you* in a rewarding new profession. Just fill in the coupon below and mail it today for your free Career Guidance Booklet and free "Demonstration Lesson."

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SHIMMERING BURSTS OF FIRE SPROUT FROM JOHNNY BLAZE'S CONTORTED FACE, AND THE AIR SHRIVELS WITH ACRID STENCH AS THAT AGONIZED FACE SEARS AND BURNS AWAY...
... LEAVING NOTHING BUT A NAKED SKULL WRAPPED IN A WHIPPING COMET OF FLAME--
--THE MACABRE VISAGE OF THE NIGHT-STREAKING GHOST RIDER!
HALT, RIDER!
WHO DARES COMMAND ME?!
ROULETTE DARES!
ROULETTE-- THE DEMON OF LAS VEGAS!
SCREE!
:ARHNNN--!:
WHOOF
SKREE
THAT FIRE-BOLT HURT-- BAD!
AND SINCE THERE'S NOT MUCH THAT CAN HURT THE GHOST RIDER--
I'D BETTER SPLIT UNTIL I CAN DOPE OUT THIS CHARACTER'S ANGLE.
CAN'T WEAVE THROUGH THESE MOLTEN HAILSTONES FOREVER--
--SO LET'S JUST HOPE THE TERMITES HAVEN'T GOTTEN TO THAT PLANK PROPPED AGAINST THE WALL.
A HAND GLOVED IN JET LEATHER TENSES AROUND THE THROTTLE... WRENCHES IT OPEN-- AND THE FLAME-STREAMING CYCLE SPURTS FORWARD WITH A STRIDENT SQUEAL...

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VRAAK
...SURGES UP THE BUCKLING PLANK AT HELLISH SPEED, VAULTING THE WALL WITH FEET TO SPARE...
... AND, IN A SPLASH OF LIQUID FIRE, SLAMS TO THE GROUND WITH A FORCE THAT SHOCKS BOTH MACHINE AND RIDER.
BUT THIS IS NO ORDINARY RIDER... IT IS, RATHER, ONE WHO IMPOSSIBLY MANAGES TO RETAIN CONTROL OF HIS SHUDDERING CYCLE.
B-THUD
CONTROL OF THE SCUDDING VEGAS SKIES, HOWEVER, IS MAINTAINED BY ANOTHER...
THAT IMAGE... IT'S ROCKY-- AND SHE'S TIED HELPLESS IN A BURNING ROOM!
MORE THAN HELPLESS, FLAME-RIDER-- SHE'S DOOMED...
...FOR IF YOU TRY TO SAVE HER, THIS ENTIRE CITY WILL BURN IN A MASSIVE PYRE OF ITS OWN MAKING!
SLOTS
Roulette
THAT ROULETTE SWEARS TO YOU, ON THE NAME OF ALMIGHTY SATAN!
THIS ROULETTE CHARACTER CAN READ MY THOUGHTS... AND THAT VOW OF HIS CINCHES IT--
--I'M UP AGAINST ONE WHO'S IN LEAGUE WITH SATAN.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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Any 15 records for only $1.97

If you join now and agree to buy 12 records (at regular Club prices) in the next 2 years

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234351* NEIL DIAMOND RAINBOW
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WHICH MEANS HIS THREAT'S NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT
SO WHO DO I SACRIFICE -- ROCKY...?
...OR THE WHOLE CITY OF LAS VEGAS?
WILLYA LOOK AT THAT, WHAT DO THESE DISGUSTING HOODLUMS COME UP WITH NEXT?
A MENACE TO THE PUBLIC STREETS IF YOU ASK ME THE WHOLE LOT OF 'EM OUGHTTA BE LINED UP AGAINST THE WALL AND SHOT!
WASN'T SUCH A DIFFICULT CHOICE AFTER ALL
HANG VEGAS! ROCKY BABE HERE I--
--COME!
SAVAGELY KICKING HIS CYCLE TO ITS BERSERK LIMIT THE GHOST RIDER ROARS DOWN THE VEGAS STREETS IN A DIRECT AND DELIBERATE COURSE
A HELLBENT UNSWERVING COURSE --AS THOUGH HE KNOWS EXACTLY WHERE HIS DESTINATION LIES AS THOUGH SOME INVISIBLE, UNBREAKABLE BOND CLOSES THE GAP BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE GIRL HE LOVES.
BRRR-AKKK
WHILE SEVERAL NEON-LIT BLOCKS AWAY, A HIDEOUS CREATURE SPAWNED IN NIGHTMARE LEAPS FROM A SCORCHED HOLE IN THE SKY
SNUFFERING AND GIGGLING WITH FOUL DELIGHT THE DEMON JOYOUSLY HURLS SIZZLING BOLTS OF DESTRUCTION GROUNDWARD
...AND SINCE THE RIDER HAS CHOSEN SELFISHLY I NOW HAVE SATAN'S APPROVAL TO WREAK MY VENGEANCE ON THIS HATED CITY!
THE FLAME-RIDER HAS CHOSEN SELFISHLY, AS I KNEW HE WOULD. WITHOUT THE GIRL'S LOVE, HIS EXISTENCE WOULD BE FORFEIT TO LORD SATAN..
SANDS
CASINO
DIAMOND
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INSIDE THE ASSAULTED CASINO PANDEMONIUM REIGNS
EVERYTHING
HORDES OF DINERS AND GAMBLERS ALIKE SCRAMBLE AND SCURRY LIKE PANICKED ANIMALS, EACH STRIVING TO OUTRACE THE OTHER TO THE CLOSEST EXITS...
OUTTA THE WAY-- OUTTA MY WAY!
KAROOM
SANS!
MANY OF THEM NEVER MAKE IT!
AS THIS PLEASES THE VAST EVIL COLLECTIVE WE END HIS MISERABLE PHASE FILLS THE AIR ABOVE HIM AND HIS MOCK AS ALL ARE SWEPT AWAY WHOLLY IN THE UNIVERSE'S E CRUMBLES AND FOLDS INTO THE CONFLAGRATION

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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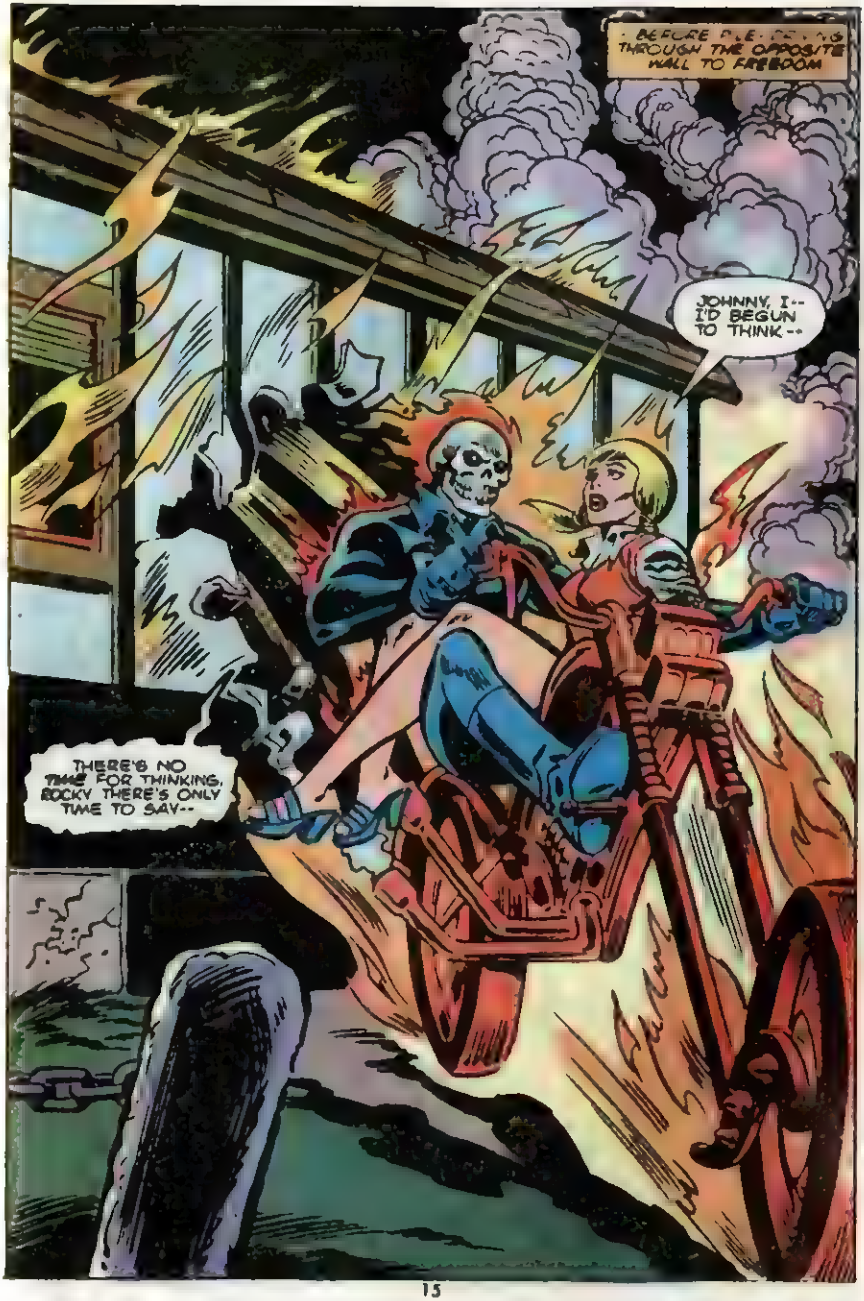
WHICH CONCERNS THUNDERING CHRIS' OTHER
--AND BLASTS THROUGH THE FIRE-WEAKENED WALL, SCOOPING A MOST STONISHED ROXANNE SIMPSON FROM THE FLAMES' SUCKING GRASP--

TM & © 2007 MARVEL


BEFORE [illegible] THROUGH THE OPPOSITE WALL TO FREEDOM
JOHNNY, I-- I'D BEGUN TO THINK--
THERE'S NO TIME FOR THINKING, ROCKY THERE'S ONLY TIME TO SAY--

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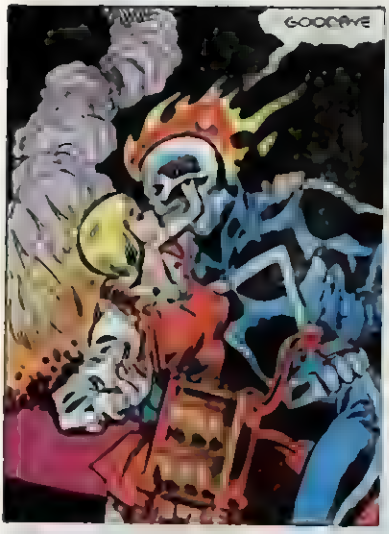

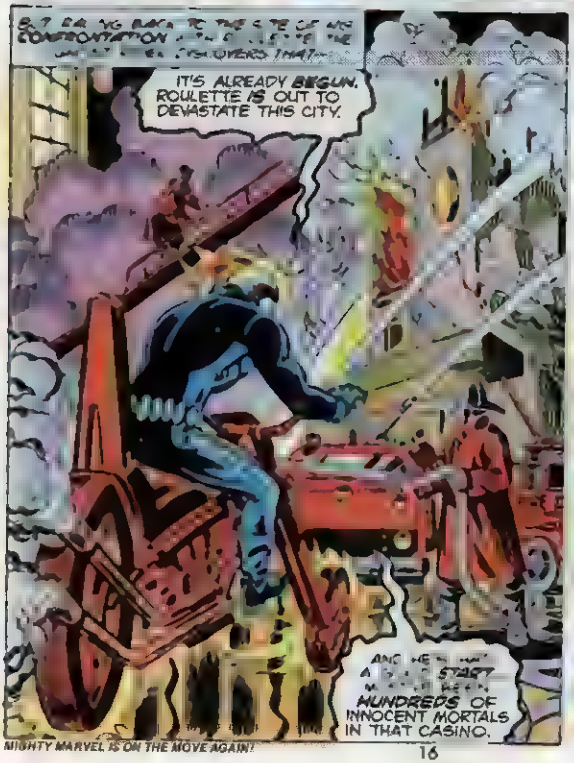
IT'S ALREADY BEGUN. ROULETTE IS OUT TO DEVASTATE THIS CITY.
AND HE'S NOW ABOUT TO START MURDERING HUNDREDS OF INNOCENT MORTALS IN THAT CASINO.

NEAR ME, SATAN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT ROULETTE'S MOTIVATION IS-- ACCIDENT I'M INVOLVED.
THIS IS YET ANOTHER TRIAL YOU'RE PUTTING ME THROUGH I PROMISE
--AND ON THAT DAY, HELL WILL CRUMBLE.

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AND THE [illegible] NAMED 'ROULETTE'
YEAH, I SAW SIX OF US ARE TO DIE ALONG WITH [illegible] CASINOS LISTING EACH OF US BY NAME.
AND DON'T FORGET HINDSTROM ALREADY DIED-- IN THAT CASINO FIRE. THAT LEAVES FIVE OF US.
I DON'T CARE-- THIS NOTE IS A THREAT.
AND I DON'T TOLERATE THREATS
BUT LISTEN, FRANK, THIS MAY BE SERIOUS. WITNESSES AT THAT FIRE CLAIM THERE WAS A FLAMING MONSTER-MAN IN THE SKY... WHO CALLED HIMSELF ROULETTE.
YEAH, AND THERE'S SOME CHICK-- SIMPSON! I THINK HER NAME IS. WHO WAS HELD CAPTIVE BY SOME GUY WHO CALLED HIMSELF A DEMON. JENSEN WAS HIS NAME
JENSEN?!
YEAH, I KNOW HIM.
I KNOW HIM... WE ALL DO. HE WAS THE BIG-TIME STOCK-CAR PROMOTER WHO 'DISAPPEARED' [illegible] OWED MONEY IN MY CASINO.
BUT ALL HE DID WAS LOSE... IN A PERFECT STREAK. WHEN HE'D OVER-PLAYED HIS STAKES AND HE HAD NO MONEY. I GAVE HIM CREDIT. [illegible] I TOLD ONE OF MY BOYS TO SHOW HIM THE DOOR...
COME ON, PAL. GAME'S OVER FOR YOU.
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT A CHANCE TO RECOUP MY LOSSES!

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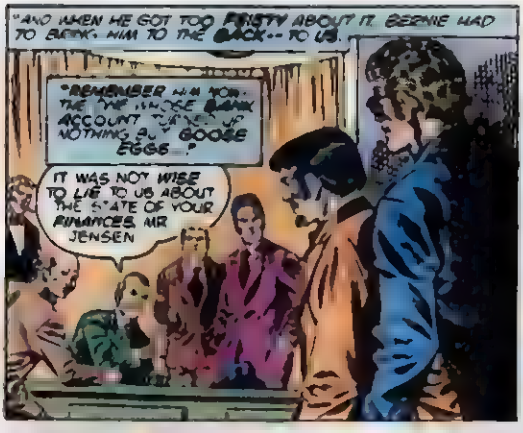
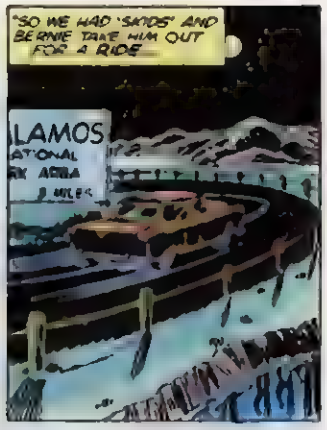
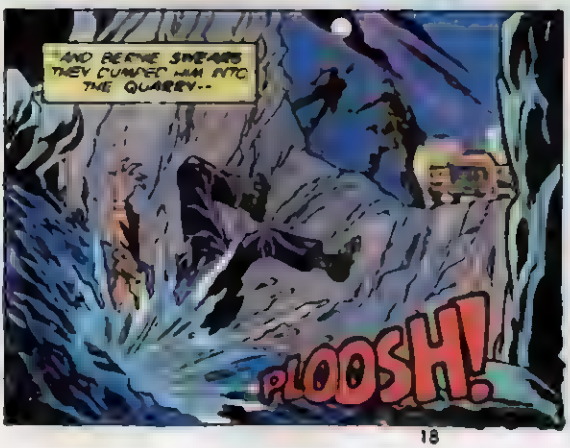

"AND WHEN HE GOT TOO FRISKY ABOUT IT, BERNIE HAD TO BRING HIM TO THE QUICK-- TO US.
"REMEMBER HIM YOU--THE ONE WHOSE BANK ACCOUNT "USED" TO READ NOTHING BUT GOOSE EGGS--?
IT WAS NOT WISE TO LIE TO US ABOUT THE STATE OF YOUR FINANCES, MR JENSEN





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GHOST WRITERS!

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE N.Y.C 10022

Dear Gary,

In general, GHOST RIDER is getting better every night. But he needs a new locale, now that his Indian girlfriend's free to leave. So...take her to India, especially Talbot Mundy's India of the book Om, The Secret of Ahbor Valley, where he can fight devil-spawned forces and meet H. Rider Haggard-type villainesses and explore lost worlds. He would stand out as much more unique in such a setting, rather than appearing just "another hot-rodding cyclist" in the Southwest.

Nags

Linda can see Johnny's cycle of fire in G.R. #3, but claims she can't ride it, because she's lost her Satanic powers. Baloney! She has to be able to see and ride it. I can't picture your suddenly having a guy riding a non-visible cycle through the streets.

There are too many "race-to-the-death" scenes. This mag's about Ghost RIDER, not Ghost CYCLE.

At the end of G.R. #3, the Hell's Angel type gets zapped by Johnny and hits an oil tanker. Unnecessary and crude, even to give Johnny self-recriminatory thoughts for future issues.

In the same vein, why did G.R. have to fall in the middle of the freeway on page sixteen, causing multiple crashes? So the cops can gun for him from now on? Too much SMASH for too little reason. He's already got the police after him.

On page six, Linda shows G.R. how to conjure up a cycle: right arm full extended, left arm cocked at the elbow. So why is G.R. doing the reverse? That is too obvious. (Next, he'll be praying to a Cross of David catty-cornered on an altar of vibranium.)

How come when Johnny Blaze awakes in the hospital, he doesn't tell someone about Linda's being stranded in the desert, as he promised her he would?

Thanks for a good mag, though.

Dennis Melvyn
3607 N.E. 14th St.
Amarillo, Texas 79107

Let's try to your answer your letter point by point, okay, Dennis? Here goes:

First, we think it might be a little difficult to justify Johnny Blaze's suddenly departing for India. He's never been there before (that we know of). He's not inclined toward Eastern mysticism (since he's got his hands full with the Western devil). He didn't even perform at the Bangla Desh concert! But...we'll see if not India, perhaps some other exotic land awaits up the highway.

Secondly, we never claimed Johnny's fire-cycle was invisible! Linda couldn't ride it simply because it was a magical creation and so could only be ridden by someone with magical powers, like Ghost Rider.

On the matter of too-abundant races-to-the-death: do the rest of you out there in Marvel-land agree?

Regarding all the auto smash-ups in GHOST RIDER #3, we may have to admit you're right. And yet, you have to admit they were fun to look at in a perverse sort of way. G.R. is, however you slice it, a menace to highway navigation. As such, whether he likes it or not, and he doesn't...he's going to get involved in crashes of that sort. You have to remember that GHOST RIDER is a sort of paper-and-ink demolition derby.

We didn't read any particular symbolism into the way Ghost Rider conjured up that cycle. Chances are, for that particular spell, it just didn't matter which arm was in which position. (Yeah, we know that's pretty lame, so how 'bout the Absolute Truth Most Likely Jim, we think wisely chose not to repeat the same pose in the next panel, so that the page would have a little more visual variety. But since the cycle still showed up, we gotta maintain that it really didn't matter, or the story wouldn't make any sense...!!)

Finally, Johnny didn't mention Linda's danger at the hospital because he was (a) in a state of semi-shock and (b) heavily sedated, thus delirious, on top of that.

We hope that answers your questions, Mr. Melvyn, 'cause we're outta breath, our typewriter ribbon is starting to fray, it's 3:20 A.M., and we're ready to collapse!!

Dear Roy,

I've been looking at the cover of GHOST RIDER #3, and something about it was bugging me. I just realized what it was.

G.R.'s fire-cycle doesn't emit exhaust fumes, but fire. Fire consumes oxygen, right?

So if everyone sells his (or her) soul to Satan, goes back on the deal as Johnny did, and learns how to control his/her powers—we'll be in a lot of trouble. Somehow, I just can't picture a fire-auto. That's something to think about.

Mark Brooks
20 Mayflower
Hallowell, Me. 04347

It's something to think about, all right, but not at 3:25 in the morning, Mark! Come on! Give us a break, willya!

SATAN SPEAKING: "It is my plan to rid the mortal world of air pollution, Mark Brooks! If all men traverse the byways of earth in fire-autos, thus consuming oxygen, there will eventually be no oxygen. No air...no air pollution! 'Tis simple as that! HaHaHaHaHaHaHa! Yuk, yuk, yuk, yuk!"

Dear Marvel

GHOST RIDER is one of my favorite comics and I hated seeing it go bi-monthly. The reason I'm writing is to try for my first no-prize. In MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #12, when Johnny and Linda were coming back to "the world" in the Son of Satan's chariot, Johnny was in his human form. But in GHOST RIDER #3, in the exact same scene, he is the Ghost Rider. How can you get out of this one?

Don Fleming
313 S. Forrest Ave.
Adel, Ga. 31620

Law D-Don *ZzZzZ* we just. ZzZzZ. award you a no-no-priZzZzZze and go...to sleep...' See, it's 3:32 in the morning. ZzZzZ. and uuuuu g night.

THIS IS IT! YOUR

MARVEL VALUE STAMP

FOR THIS ISSUE!

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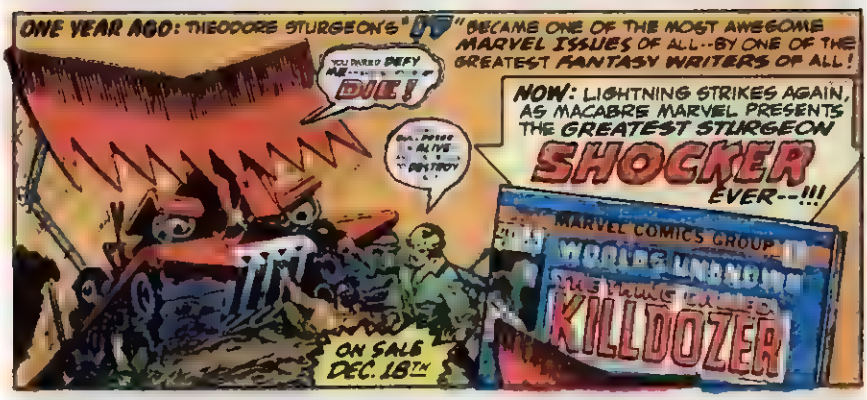
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STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Well, here it is — the start of a brand new year for all of us! It's the perfect time to clue you in on some of the fabulous, far-out projects in store for you from mighty Marvel, where wonders never cease — and where the future has never looked more exciting!

We don't have to tell you what a smash sensation our Spider-Man medallion coins have been — you're probably wearing one right now! But that's only the beginning! Every other product manufacturer seems to be discovering Marvel at the same time. So, in the coming year you'll be seeing more of our swingin' superhero gizmos than you can shake a spider-web at! But, that's just for starters — !

Even as I pen you momentous monograph, Marvel's vast, world-wide network of legal experts (okay, so it's one over-worked lawyer with a scratchy pen) is in the process of signing a contract with one of America's largest and most famous book-publishing companies to do a series of hard-cover books about — you guessed it — your favorite Marvel masterworks! We'll tell you more in coming issues, and we hoodwink thee not — it'll herald a whole new world of reading excitement for all Marveldom Assembled — even for the few heretics who still may be at large!

Naturally, FOOM is still growing by leaps and bounds. Your batty Bullpen has just scheduled a special meeting to vote on all the new goodies and surprises in store for the Friends Of Ol' Marvel, may their luster never dim! And of course one of our zingiest new sensations is the Value Stamp project we've just begun — which Rascally Roy will discuss with you in living color — if I ever leave him enough space!

Since no mere mortal can bear too much mind-staggering munificence, I'll merely hint at some other dynamite developments to come. Wouldja believe a full-length feature film about some of our cataclysmic characters? And how about the two top TV producers who are making us an offer we can hardly refuse? And, we've gotta admit we're still sneakily working on plans for new, earth-shaking characters and concepts in our ever-growing line of Marvel comics and mags. So watch your newsstand, watch these pages, and watch out for enemy agents! We mustn't let a word of this reach the competition!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! Sheesh! It's January again — and it seems like only yesterday that the whole batty Bullpen were auld-lang-syning each other at New Year's parties all over Manhattan, the Bronx, and Staten Island too. Anyhow, just for the heck of it, we thought you might wanna see some of the *New Year's Resolutions* dreamed up by our nutty artists and writers for 1974. So here goes — !

Merry GERRY CONWAY resolves he'll take the time to memorize the agreement of all Asgardian pronouns and verbs. (He's got no choice! Rascally Roy stamped 'em all over Mr. C's forehead!)

Macabre MIKE PLOOG vows to make his new project, the Man-Thing, as horribly hairy and hellishly heinous as his Werewolf, Ghost Rider, and Frankenstein Monster put together.

RICH (Swash) BUCKLER pledges to make the Fantastic Four even more popular than it already is. (And you know something? The lad just might make it!)

Jazzy JOHNNY ROMITA swears he'll sneak away from his post as art director long enough to actually draw a Spider-Man saga or two, just for old times' sake.

STEVE (Baby) GERBER and Battlin' BOB BROWN jointly avow that they will both figure out every one of the gimmicks in Daredevil's billy-club before 1975 rolls around — they hope!

Big JOHN BUSCEMA promises to remember that a right-handed Barbarian wears his sword on his *left* side, not on his right.

Sibling SAL B. claims he'll get a new compass to help him draw those difficult, painstaking stripes on Captain America's shield.

Marvelous MARV WOLFMAN and Gentleman GENE COLAN affirm that they'll invent at least *three* unique and previously untried ways for Count Dracula to die! (Lotsa luck, fellas!)

Rascally ROY THOMAS declares that this year Conan will definitely go thru one whole issue without once referring to his Cimmerian god Crom. Or, if not *this* year, then maybe the next — !

And Smilin' STAN LEE, our publishing potentate, swears that this'll be positively the *last* year he lets his ever-lovin' editor make up New Year's Resolutions for the whole blamed Bullpen!

But now, onward — !

ITEM! We need a *breather*, people — honest! So many of you have been sending in for your full-fledged FOOM kits and all the other Marvel-type merchandise we've been offering you, that we've got to discontinue our ads for 'em for the next few weeks, just long enough to get caught up on all the mountains of mail that're piling up! That's just by way of letting you know that, if you're one of the few Marvelites who haven't yet signed up for membership in our FOOM fan club, you'll get your chance an ish or two from now. A word to the wise. . . !

ITEM! And now, in closing, here's our mirthful message in SPIDER-MAN CODE for the merry month of January — to warm the cockles of your heart with news of a Marvel longtimer who'll be getting his very own series in the months to come. Like so:

NFVZM NZBDOFV GTDODVQO —
BY OFV, QMD BZV-KFWE!

Ponder over *that* little tidbit for a while, Straight Arrow!

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AW, HONEY, I'M BUSHED. THAT LOUSY JOB OF MINE...
PLEASE, DEAR. BESIDES, WE DON'T GET OUT THAT OFTEN...
OH, ALL RIGHT
LATER
SAY, JIM AND HELEN HAVE A NICE PLACE HERE. WONDER WHERE HE GETS THE MONEY?
OH, JIM IS IN ELECTRONICS NOW
YOU SEEM MIGHTY HAPPY IN ELECTRONICS, JIM. LEVEL WITH ME-HOW'D YOU BREAK IN?
EASIER THAN YOU MIGHT THINK. WITH CIE TRAINING, I LEARNED EVERYTHING I NEEDED RIGHT AT HOME... IN MY SPARE TIME!
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SPEAKING OF WHOM...
NOT AGAIN
DON'T YOU EVER GET TIRED OF THAT FLAMING-CIRCLE-IN-THE-SKY BIT?
JEST WHILE YOU MAY, RIDER, BUT KNOW THIS: ONE IS DEAD-- AND FIVE MORE SHALL FOLLOW, DESPITE YOUR LUDICROUS ATTEMPTS TO INTERVENE.
CHOKE ON IT, YOU DIME-STORE GOBLIN REJECT!
I'M AFTER YOU, ROULETTE--AND WHEN I CATCH YOU, I'LL BURN THE UGLY RIGHT OFF YOUR FACE--
3.
SPLASHH!
--JUST AS EASILY AS I BURN YOUR CARNIVAL-SHOW IMAGE FROM THE SKY!
AND FINDING HIM WON'T EXACTLY BE DIFFICULT. HE RADIATES EVIL, AND THAT SCENT OF DECAY BURNS MY NOSTRILS!
AND SINCE IT'S GETTING WORSE, I MUST BE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION--
HOW COULD THEY KNOW SO FAST-- THAT I WAS USING SLUGS IN THAT SLOT MACHINE--?
--EVEN THOUGH THIS SPECTRAL TRAIL LEADS WAY OUT INTO THIS DESOLATE STRETCH OF DESERT!
THOSE EMANATIONS ARE GETTING HEAVY...SO HEAVY IT'S HARD TO--

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TO ONE WHO HAS KNOWN THE DARKSOME PITS OF HELL ITSELF WHO HAS CONFRONTED FOES STRANGE IN THE REALM OF PERILOUS MIRACLES WHO HIMSELF HAS FACED THE HIGHLY TENSE EMOTION OF A SUPERNATURAL BEING DECEIVING ALL ONLOOKERS AND WHO HAS GONE SO FAR AS TO SPIT IN SATAN'S EYE--
BELIEVE
.. THERE ARE FEW THINGS WHICH CAN MAKE HIM FEEL AWE
BUT THE FINAL SIGHT LOOKS UPON THE LUNAR RATE STRUCTURE HOVERING ABOVE THE BLACKEST SAND LOOKS UPON THE ROCKY FACE SCARRED AND FISSURATED BATTLEMENTS THE WEIRD ARCHWAYS AND PORTALS THE BIZARRE CONFIGURATION OF EMBLEMATIC SENTINELS THE AMAZING SPINNING WHEEL OF FLAME WHICH SUPPORTS THE WHOLE TREMENDOUS MASS--
AND HE FEELS PROFOUND AWE
WORDS COME TO HIM HEARD OR READ LONG AGO! IT WAS A MIRACLE OF SICK DESIRE A GLOOMY HORROR DOME WITH FIRE AND HE IS AWED EVEN MORE BY THE FANTASTIC MEGALOMANIA WHICH MUST OBSESS THIS DEMON CALLED ROULETTE

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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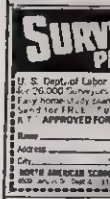

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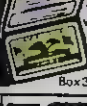

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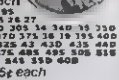

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SO HERE'S WHERE I TURN ON THE SUPER-NATURAL HEAT--
--AND SCORCH MY WAY THROUGH!
SHWOOM
ALL RIGHT LUNATIC-- WHAT'S THE STORY? WHAT'VE YOU GOT AGAINST THOSE SIX MEN IN VEGAS?
FIVE MEN NOW, FLAME-RIDER! REMEMBER THAT ONE HAS ALREADY BEEN DESTROYED
AND WHAT I "HAVE AGAINST THEM" IS... MY DEATH!
THEY MURDERED ME, THOSE SIX MORTALS. THEY HAD ME SHOT..
--AND THEIR HIRED GUNS CAST MY BLEEDING FORM INTO THE QUARRY.. TO DROWN!

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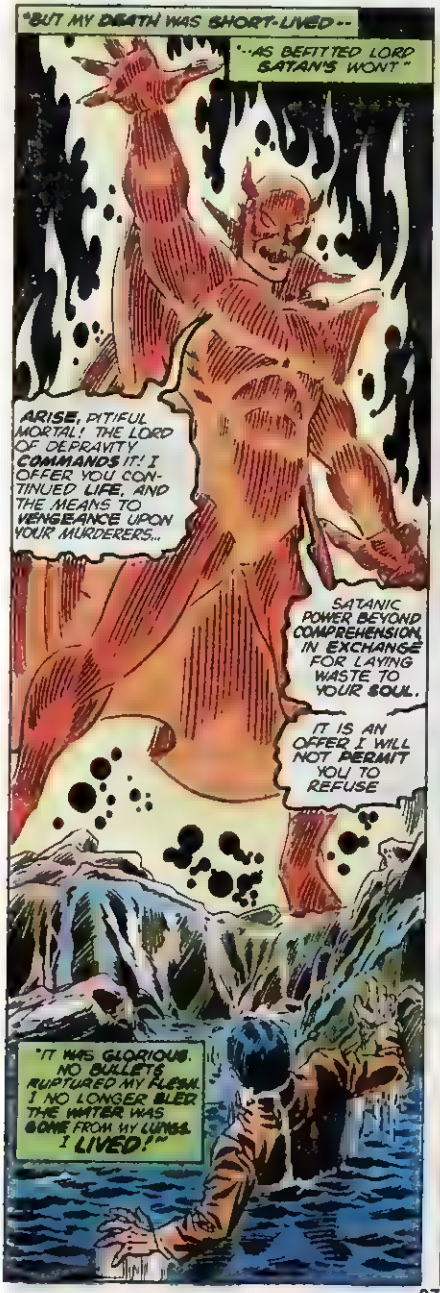
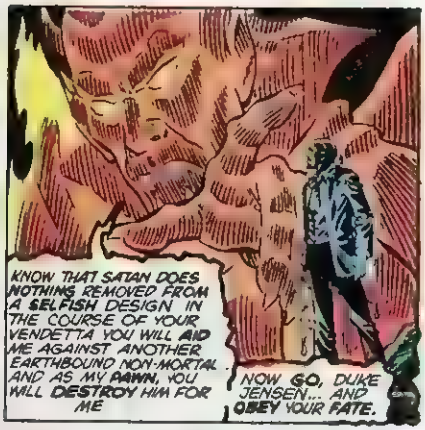
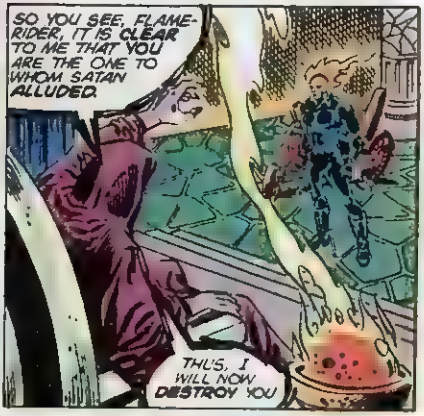
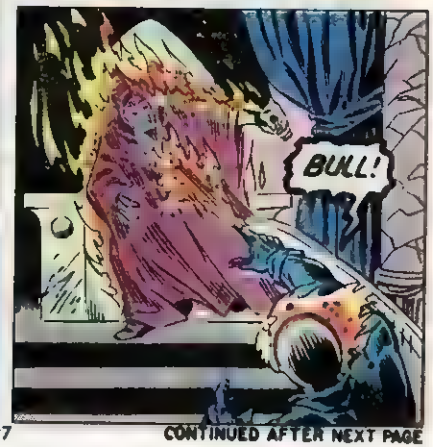

"BUT MY DEATH WAS SHORT-LIVED--
"...AS BEFITTED LORD SATAN'S WONT"
ARISE, PITIFUL MORTAL! THE LORD OF DEPRAVITY COMMANDS IT! I OFFER YOU CONTINUED LIFE, AND THE MEANS TO VENGEANCE UPON YOUR MURDERERS...
SATANIC POWER BEYOND COMPREHENSION, IN EXCHANGE FOR LAYING WASTE TO YOUR SOUL.
IT IS AN OFFER I WILL NOT PERMIT YOU TO REFUSE
"IT WAS GLORIOUS. NO BULLETS RUPTURED MY FLESH. I NO LONGER BLED. THE WATER WAS GONE FROM MY LUNGS. I LIVED!"


KNOW THAT SATAN DOES NOTHING REMOVED FROM A SELFISH DESIGN. IN THE COURSE OF YOUR VENDETTA YOU WILL AID ME AGAINST ANOTHER EARTHBOUND NON-MORTAL. AND AS MY PAWN, YOU WILL DESTROY HIM FOR ME
NOW GO, DUKE JENSEN... AND OBEY YOUR FATE.





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PRESENTING—ANOTHER BOMBASTICALLY BUCOLIC BULLPEN BONUS PAGE!

VALUE, VALUE—WHO'S GOT THE VALUE?

Last time around, we first introduced our mighty MARVEL VALUE STAMPS to a breathlessly waiting world.

Now *this* month, it's finally time to explain the furshlugginer things!

What it is: We're now including one of these colorful MVS goodies in virtually every one of our multitudinous mags that has a *letters page*. There'll be an even *hundred* of them in Series "A," which covers calendar year 1974, starting with #1 (your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man, who else?) and winding up with #100, which sports a dynamic likeness of none other than—well, we'll let you guess till *next* time just *whose* mug will replace that mystery-shrouded *question mark* when the coveted #100 Stamp finally appears!

All we can tell you about it right now is that, although some of our Stamps will appear much more often than others, MVS #100 will be absolutely, positively the *rarest* one of 'em all, popping up in only *one* Marvel title during the whole blamed year!

(No, no, Suspicious One—it won't be sneaked into one of our western re-runs or *any* of our rhapsodic reprints, but will be featured prominently in one of our awesome *all-original* epics over the next few months. If you miss it, or one of the others which you need to complete your collection—you can always do a bit of *swapping* and *trading* with your fellow Marvel madmen who might have been luckier, right?)

And now the $64,000 question: Once you've got all 100 Stamps, what do you *do* with them? We call 'em MARVEL VALUE STAMPS, after all—so where's the value?

Well, part of the future value of the whole collection is obvious. For instance, in the next month or three, we'll be offering you an *MVS Stamp Album* virtually at cost, so that you can paste in all of them and have a complete set—which is bound to become a real collector's item in the years to come. (After all, didja know that FANTASTIC FOUR #1 is now selling for up to $50 in many back-issue comic-book stores across the nation, and that SPIDEY #1 isn't far behind?)

But, that's only a *long-range* forecast. For those of you who'd like to see some benefits *before* you grow a long white beard, we can't say any more just now—but we solemnly promise that, even as these words are written, we're already in the process of lining up some *immediate* **rewards you can reap when you've amassed a complete set.** So, you'll not only have the frolic and fun of collecting the full 100 MVS mini-masterpieces, but—at least for many of you—it'll mean money in your pocket, to boot!

How's *that* for a grabber?

We also pledge a *fuller* explanation of this all-important point over the next few issues—verily, we swear and affirm it by the mile-long Adam's-apple of Reed Richards!

So keep on clippin' and collectin', pilgrim!

By the time summer rolls around, virtually all *100* MARVEL VALUE STAMPS will have appeared in our liltin' letters pages, or in some other designated spot—

—And that's when the fun *really* begins!

P.S.: Special thanks to Jazzy Johnny Romita, Mirthful Marie Severin, and Titanic Tony Mortellaro for digging up the spiffiest bunch of superhero drawings since George Washington first said "Cheese!"

FROM THE VALLEY OF THE (HO! HO! HO!) MARVEL GIANTS!

It's true! It's true! Our new mammoth-sized 75¢ mags are taking the world by storm! And no wonder! For one thing, last time we looked, they sported a full *eight pages more* than most of our major competitors' titles; for another, they feature a panorama of fear-filled photos from the greatest monster movies of all time. All this, plus art and story by some of the Bullpen's spookiest ghost-writers!

In fact, these mags are such a labor of love to produce that, in order to pore over each issue the way we really want to, we had to knock 'em all down to mere quarterly schedules for a while. But now, they're all *bimonthly* again!

That's right—as of now, you can pick up DRACULA LIVES, MONSTERS UNLEASHED, VAMPIRE TALES, and TALES OF THE ZOMBIE six times a year at your local nefarious newsstand. And CRAZY—the 40¢ humor-mag that dared to be dumb—will be on sale *seven* times a year, just to confuse and confound you!

What's more, in a couple of months we plan to launch *two more* jumbo-sized spectaculars—and, though they're on the top-secret list right now, we frankly think the very *names* of our two upcoming masterworks will knock you right out of your haunted castle!

Now, on to a pair of pulsating news-bits:

ITEM! The Crazy Crew tunes in "High Plains Drifter," "Last Tango in Paris," and "Soylent Green"—and tunes *out* "The Waltons"! Plus—"In Search of Ancient Auto-Nuts" and "The Rock'n'Rollin' Stone"! **CRAZY #3—on sale Jan. 31**

ITEM! They're coming! The Snow Vampires! And they're not alone—for Satana, the Devil's Daughter, and Morbius the Living Vampire are right behind 'em! All this and more, in **VAMPIRE TALES #4, on sale Jan. 29!**

HAPPY NEW YEAR, HAUNTOPHILE!

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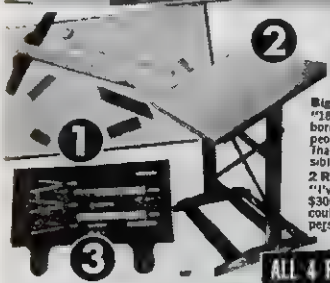

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A MOST MOVING DISPLAY, FLAME RIDER. BUT DO YOU TRULY BELIEVE YOUR POWER SUPERIOR TO MINE?
YOU ARE A RENEGADE FROM HELL, WIELDING YOUR POWER THRU SATAN'S EVERY RESISTANCE--
--WHILE I AM ONE OF THE NETHER-WORLD'S MOST LOYAL CHARGES, AIDED AND ENCOURAGED BY LORD SATAN!
MASTER-- I HAVE DOWNED YOUR HATED ENEMY
YOU ARE THE POWER AND THE SOURCE, AND I AM BUT YOUR HUMBLE VESSEL, I BESEECH YOU GRANT ME THE ADDITIONAL STRENGTH TO COMPLETELY VANQUISH YOUR FOE--
--DELIVER HIS SOUL BACK FROM WHENCE IT CAME UNTO YOU FOR ETERNITY!
STUNNED, THE GHOST RIDER'S CONSCIOUSNESS STRUGGLES THROUGH THE QUEASY VERTIGO OF AGONY... AND ONLY NOW HEARS ROULETTE'S FERVENT PLEA
AN, MORE NOW HE HEARS DISTANT SOUNDS SEEMINGLY IN HELL -- AN OMINOUS THUNDER SCRAPING THE HEAVENS

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...THE SOUND OF SATAN'S REPLY.
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, DUKE JENSEN, AND FOR THAT I SHALL REWARD YOU--
--BY GRANTING YOUR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL POWER.
ONLY ONE CHANCE-- IF I CAN PIN-POINT HIM IN A CROSSFIRE...
DESPERATELY, THE GHOST RIDER UNLEASHES EVERY LAST VESTIGE OF POWER HE CONTROLS... AND TWO STREAMS OF SIZZLING HELL-FIRE CONVERGE ON THE DEMON ROULETTE...
...CONVERGE, AND BUILD TO CRITICAL INTENSITY-- TO A SEARING OVERLOAD WHICH CANNOT POSSIBLY BE CONTAINED BY ANY VESSEL, HUMAN OR OTHERWISE...
AND SO, ROULETTE IMPLODES SHOCKINGLY!
THE ACRID STENCH OF BRIMSTONE PERMEATES THIS INSANE, SUPERNATURAL XANADU IN THE DESERT SKY...
...AND WHEN THE FOUL HELLISH GASES DISSIPATE, ALL THAT REMAINS IS THE SOMBER FIGURE OF A SHAKEN GHOST RIDER--
--AND THE ASHES OF ONE WHO HAS BEEN DESTROYED BY MORE THAN FATE!
NEXT: THE ZODIAK BANDIT STRIKES!

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AUNT MAY--MARRYING DOCTOR OCTOPUS?
NO! THIS WEDDING WILL NOT TAKE PLACE!
BUT IT WILL, WALL-CRAWLER--OVER YOUR DEAD BODY!
COULD BE--AND THAT'S JUST FOR STARTERS--IN THE LATEST, GREATEST ACTION ISSUE EVER!!
THIS IS WHERE IT ALL HANGS OUT--!
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ON THE TERROR-FRAUGHT TRACK OF.. TERNAK DO
THE MONSTER WHO WALKS THE MIDNIGHT SNOWS!!
NO USE! EVEN MY FIREBALLS WON'T STOP HIM--AND HE CRUSHES ME!
DON'T GIVE UP, TORCH! WHATEVER HE DO--WE'VE GOT TO KEEP FIGHTING DO TILL WE DIE!
P.S. FOR NIT-PICKERS!! YEP, THE EVER-LOVIN' BLUE-EYED THING IS IN THIS ISH, TOO!
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ON SALE JAN. 15TH
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YOU DARED DEFY ME--AND SO YOU MUST DIE!
THAT BULLDOZER--IT'S ALIVE--AND IT'S TRYING TO DESTROY US!!
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